

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Advisory Action dated August 20, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 14, 40, and 42 are hereby amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 4, 14, 16, 20, 21, and 40-45 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Action dated August 20, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claims 40-45 were withdrawn from consideration. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 40-45 were added in an Amendment after Final Rejection dated August 10, 2004 that was not entered because it presented additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims. By the filing of the present Request for Continued Examination, Applicant hereby requests entry of the amendments in the Amendment after Final Rejection dated August 10, 2004 and the claim amendments presented in this paper.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

Application No.: 08/936,510
Amendment dated September 8, 2004
Reply to Advisory Action dated August 20, 2004

Docket No.: 8733.004.01-US

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: September 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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